

a.) Amendments to the Claims

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Claims 1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) An isolated DNA coding for a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:1.~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

5. (Previously Presented) An isolated DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

6. (Previously Presented) An isolated DNA which is hybridizable with DNA consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 at 65°C fixed on a filter in the presence of from 0.7 to 1.0 mol/liter NaCl, followed by washing at 65°C with 0.1 to 2-fold concentration SSC solution, wherein the isolated DNA codes for a polypeptide having transaldolase activity.

7. (Previously Presented) A recombinant DNA obtained by ligating the DNA of any one of claims 4-6 with a vector.

8. (Original) A transformant carrying the recombinant DNA of claim 7.

Claim 9-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a polypeptide described in following (1) or (2):

(1) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:1~~, SEQ ID NO:4;

(2) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% homologous to the amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:1~~, SEQ ID NO:4, and having transaldolase activity, which comprises the steps of:

culturing the transformant of claim 8 in a medium to thereby produce and accumulate the polypeptide in culture, and

recovering the polypeptide from the culture.

Claim 16-18 (Cancelled).